

2019 TFFC - Texas Fin-Fur-Con

Merit Badge University

FAQ's

Location Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center ("TFFC")
5550 FM-2495
Athens, TX 75752

Located at Lake Athens, 6 miles east of the Athens town square, 78 miles from Downtown Dallas.

MBs offered focused on wildlife and conservation

1. Archaeology
2. Archery
3. Bird Study
4. Energy
5. Environmental Science*
6. Fish and Wildlife Management
7. Fishing
8. Fly Fishing
9. Forestry
10. Geocaching
11. Geology
12. Insect Study
13. Landscape Architecture
14. Mammal Study
15. Nature
16. Orienteering
17. Pioneering
18. Plant Science
19. Reptile and Amphibian Study
20. Soil and Water Conservation
21. Sustainability*
22. Weather
23. *Trail to First Class*
24. *3-Hour Conservation Project (Life Scout Req. #4)*

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE



**TEXAS FRESHWATER
FISHERIES CENTER**



* Eagle Required, but only one of these two MBs may be counted as Eagle-required; the other may be also used for Eagle (or other) rank.

Times	Saturday March 23 rd , 2019, All day event.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Check in opens at 7:30 am, ▪ Morning session starts at 8:30 am to 11:30 am. ▪ Free Time from 11:30 am to 12:00 noon ▪ BBQ lunch served at 12:00 noon ▪ Afternoon Session 1:00 to 4:00 pm ▪ Free time from 4:00 – 5:00 pm ▪ Cracker Barrel snack 4:30 pm
What is included	\$20 youth participant fee covers admission to the TFFC facility, a 3-hour morning session, lunch, a 3-hour afternoon session, cracker barrel snack at the closing, a bag of swag and a cool event patch. All others may purchase an optional \$10 meal ticket.
Registration	Via https://circle10.camp-master.com/ Scout participants register for only \$20, leaders, staff and guests purchase an optional \$10 meal ticket.
Participant limit	First 300 paid youth registrations, plus 100 additional leader, staff & visitor meal tickets. MBs are limited to anywhere from 5 to 16 participants per session. It depends on the MB. Trail to First Class is limited to 40 participants.
Family Visitors	Family members and guests are encouraged to attend with their Scouts. There is a lot to see and do at the TFFC. Regular admission is \$5.50 for adults, \$4.50 for seniors 65 and older, and \$3.50 for children ages 4 through 12.
Meal Ticket	Leaders, staff & visitors have the option to purchase a \$10 meal ticket served at the TFFC, bring their lunch, or eat separately at the marina or in town.
Who is cooking	BBQ catering by Danny's Smokehouse of Athens. If you don't care for BBQ, then bring your own lunch.
What else to do in Athens	East Texas Arboretum, movie theatre, antique & art shopping on the town square, 4 local wineries, day spas.
Staff Meal Ticket	Leader & staff cost is \$10 to cover the cost of the meal.
Where to Park	Please park in the Bus/RV parking area on the west side of the TFFC or in the overflow parking area on the south side of the TFFC off Peninsula Point Drive, CR 4812
Where to check in	The Scout check in desk will be located at the main entrance on the north side of the facility.
Uniform	BSA "class A" or "class B" required.
What to bring	BSA Annual Health & Medical Record (physical) Part A & B , Water bottle, optional; Camp Chair, hat, sunscreen, MB work materials, your own fishing

gear must be inspected for barbless hooks, or use the gear provided by the TFFC.

Homework	The scouts should have read the requirements of the badges they were taking beforehand and at least be familiar with the subject.
Session times	<p>There will be two sessions. a 3-hour morning session and a 3-hour afternoon session. Scouts will have the option to work on 2 MBs or a morning beginner and afternoon intermediate Trail to First Cass. The MBs and Trail to First class are offered as two separate morning and afternoon sessions. So Scouts can do the courses in any combination they choose. The following are examples.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Energy MB morning session, - Geology MB afternoon session• Trail to first Class beginner morning session, - Trail to first Class intermediate afternoon session• Forestry MB morning session, - Trail to first Class intermediate afternoon session
3-hour Conservation Project	This work session at the TFFC will satisfy the Life Scout requirement: 4. While a Star Scout, participate in six hours of service through one or more service projects approved by your Scoutmaster. <u>At least three hours of this service must be conservation-related.</u>
Partial & Completed MBs	Most MB requirements can usually be completed in a 3-hour session, but this will be up to the MB Counselor/instructor teaching it and the Scout's leaders back at the unit. Some merit badges ("MB") will be complete where others will be partial and can be finished later.
Where to Camp	Nearby (5-minute drive) tent camping is available for this event from Scouting supporters at their private land. Clements Scout Camp (TRJ) is only 20 minutes away. Purtil Creek State Park is only 40 minutes away. Regrettably, there is no camping at the TFFC or tent camping at Lake Athens Marina. The Marina only offers RV camping.
Fishing MB requirements	Special arrangements have been made with the TFFC so that Scouts working on Fishing & Fly Fishing MBs may catch, clean and cook their fish. Fishing gear will be provided if you don't have your own. The Dallas Fly Fishing Club members will be providing additional instructors to help out.
Eagle Required MBs	Both Environmental Science and Sustainability will be offered but only one of these may be counted as Eagle required, the other may still be counted towards Eagle (or any other) rank
Report via CampMaster	Completed MB work will be recorded in CampMaster where it will be reported back to the Units for approval. We will provide progress reports via the Circle Ten CampMaster computer program as proof to each Scout's unit that various Scouting requirements have been met.

Progress reports will be generated for each Scout participant, then forwarded to that Scout's unit. Blue Cards will not be provided at this event.

Event Lead: Chip.Perryman@Gmail.com for event information.

Registration problems: Kember.hall@scouting.org for Circle Ten CampMaster problems.

MB Counselor & Staff Assignments – We need at least 34 adult staff members. Send Chip.Perryman@Gmail.com an email with your 1 to 3 choices ranked in order of preference. We will try to assign you to your first choice. We will need at least one BSA registered MB counselor for each of the 22 MBs, 4 instructors for Trail to First Class, 6 event commissioners for check-in and other staff duties.